CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

1. - 10.   (cancelled).

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11. (currently amended) A business method for collecting and providing current updated and verified credential information regarding at least one individual to an interested entity regarding the ongoing and continued employment of the at least one individual comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining initial information about the at least one individual by querying at least one information source selected from the group consisting of information sources, the individual, information providers, public records, and commercial data providers;

b) inputting the information into a sortable continuously updated relational database;

c) sorting the information into at least one searchable unit within the sortable continuously updated relational database;

d) obtaining updated information from the at least one information source, wherein the information is periodically updated by obtaining the updated information from the at least one information source such that the initial information contained in the sortable continuously updated relational database is constantly replaced by the updated information;

~~e)~~ verifying the updated information by comparing the updated information against other information obtained from another one of the at least one information source;

e̶f) replacing the initial information with the updated information within a predetermined time from when the updated information is o̶b̶t̶a̶i̶n̶e̶dverified:

f̶g) allowing the interested entity access to the information contained in the sortable continuously updated relational database; and

g̶h) repeating steps b through e̶f as often as updated information is obtained.;̶ ̶a̶n̶d̶

~~h̶i̶) repeating step f as often as the interested entity desires access to the information,~~

wherein the method results in the creation of an on-line continually updated profile of the at least one individual that can be accessed electronically on an as needed basis by the interested entity to verify the information about the at least one individual.

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12.   (original) The business method as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the database is owned by a database owner and wherein a payment is made by the database owner to the at least one information source for the provision of information.

13.   (previously presented) The business method as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the database is owned by a database owner and wherein a payment is made by the interested entity to the database owner for access to the information.

14.   (previously presented) The business method as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the information is personal information about the at least one individual.

15.   (original) The business method as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the information is provided proactively from the at least one information source.

16.   (currently amended) The business method as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the updated information is verified provided automatically from the at least one information source.

17.   (currently amended) The business method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the updated information is provided automatically to the interested entity after the updated information is verified.

18.   (currently amended) The business method as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the interested entity automatically on a periodic basis receives the updated verified information from the database regarding a number of discrete individuals identified by the interested entity to the database.

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19.   (currently amended) The business method as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the interested entity receives upon request the verified credential information from the database-regarding a number of discrete individuals identified by the interested entity to the database.

20.   (currently amended) The business method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the interested entity obtains the verified credential information about the at least one individual from the database for the purpose of determining whether the interested entity desires to create, maintain or terminate a relationship with the at least one individual.

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21.   (currently amended) A method for collecting and providing updated and verified information about individuals to an interested entity regarding the ongoing and continued employment of the at least one individual comprising the steps of:

a)   obtaining initial information about the individuals by electronically querying at least one information provider selected from the group consisting of electronic information sources, the individual, electronic information sources, public records, and commercial data providers;

b)   entering the initial information about the individuals into a relational database;

c)   providing on-line access to the relational database to the interested entity;

d)   obtaining updated information about the individuals from the at least one information provider;

e)   comparing the updated information about the individuals to the initial information entered into the relational database;

f)   verifying the updated information by comparing the updated information against other information obtained from another one of the at least one information source;

f(g)   replacing the initial information entered into the relational database with the updated information about the individuals if the updated information about the individuals is verified and more recent than the initial information entered into the relational database to create an updated relational database, wherein the information is continuously updated by obtaining the updated information from the at least one information source such that the initial information contained in the database is constantly replaced by the updated information;

g(h)   repeating steps d through f as additional updated information about the individuals is obtained from the at least one information provider,

wherein the method results in the creation of an on-line continually updated profile of the individuals that can be accessed on an as needed basis by the interested entity to verify the information about the individuals.

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22.   (currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim 21, further comprising the step of:

hi)   transmitting ~~credential~~the updated verified information from the updated relational database to the interested entity automatically after step f) ~~updated information about the individuals is inputted into the relational database~~.

23.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the updated verified information about the individuals is obtained from the at least one information source on a constant periodic basis.

24.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the information about the individuals is obtained from the at least one information provider on a continuous basis when updated verified information about the individuals is available.

25.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the relational database is provided to the interested entity on a constant periodic basis.

26.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the relational database is provided to the interested entity on a continuous basis.

27.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the information about the individuals is obtained from the at least one information provider on a continuous basis when updated information about the individuals is available and the relational database is provided to the interested entity on a continuous basis.

28.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 22, wherein the information about the individuals is obtained from the at least one information provider on a continuous basis when updated information about the individuals is available and the relational database is transmitted to the interested entity on a continuous basis.

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29.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the database is owned by a database owner and wherein a payment is made by the database owner to the at least one information source for the provision of information about the individuals, and wherein a payment is made by the interested entity to the database owner for being provided the information about the individuals.

30.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 29, wherein the information is obtained automatically from the at least one information source and wherein the updated information is provided automatically to the interested entity

31.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 30, wherein the interested entity automatically on a periodic basis receives information from the database regarding a discrete number of the individuals identified by the interested entity to the database.

32.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the interested entity obtains the information about the discrete number of the individuals from the database for the purpose of determining whether the interested entity desires to create, maintain or terminate a relationship with the discrete number of the individuals.

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33.   (currently amended) A computerized system for collecting and providing updated and verified information about individuals to an interested entity regarding the ongoing and continued employment of the at least one individual comprising the steps of:

a)   obtaining initial information in digital form about at least one individual from at least one information source by electronically querying the at least one information source, wherein the initial information is related to the credentials of the at least one information and is selected from the group consisting of personal information, professional information, and governmental information;

b)   entering the initial information about the at least one individual in a digital format into a continuously updated relational database, wherein the continuously updated relational database comprises continuously updated digital information about the at least one individual;

c)   providing access to the continuously updated relational database to at least one entity interested in the at least one individual;

d)   updating the digital information in the continuously updated relational database after verifying the updated information against another one of the at least one information source and by comparing newer information obtained from the at least one information provider about the at least one individual to the information stored in the continuously updated relational database and replacing the information in the continuously updated relational database with the newer information about the at least one individual if the newer information about the at least one individual is more recent and different than the information stored in the continuously updated relational database, wherein the information is continuously periodically updated by obtaining the newer information from the at least one information source such that the initial information contained in the continuously newer relational database is constantly replaced by the newer information, and comparing the data in the database with the information resident at the information providers;

e)   repeating step d as soon as the newer information about the at least one individual is obtained from the at least one information source; and

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f)   transmitting the newer information to the at least one interested party automatically,

wherein the method results in the creation of an on-line continually updated profile of the at least one individual that can be accessed on an as needed basis by the interested entity to verify the information about the at least one individual, and the interested entity automatically obtains the information about the at least one individual from the database for the purpose of determining whether the interested entity desires to create, maintain or terminate a relationship with the at least one individual.

34. - 35.   (cancelled).

36.   (previously presented) The method as claimed in Claim ~~35~~33, wherein the database is owned by a database owner and wherein a payment is made by the database owner to the at least one information source for the provision of information about the at least one individual, and wherein a payment is made by the at least one interested entity to the database owner for being provided the information about the at least one individual.

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37. (currently amended) A business method for collecting and providing updated and verified credentialing information about individuals to an interested entity regarding the ongoing and continued employment of the at least one individual comprising the steps of:

    a)   obtaining initial information about at least one individual from the individual and at least one additional information provider by electronically querying the at least one additional information provider and using a pull system that mines and extracts the initial information from the at least one additional information source, wherein the initial information is selected from the group consisting of personal information, professional information, and governmental information;

    b)   entering the initial information about the at least one individual in a digital format into a continuously updated relational database, wherein the continuously updated relational database comprises continuously updated digital information about the at least one individual;

    c)   providing access to the continuously updated relational database to at least one entity interested in the at least one individual;

    d)   updating the digital information in the continuously updated relational database by comparing newer information obtained from the at least one information source about the at least one individual to the information stored in the continuously updated relational database and replacing the information in the continuously updated relational database with the newer information about the at least one individual if the newer information about the at least one individual is more recent and different than the information stored in the continuously updated relational database, wherein the information is continuously periodically updated by obtaining the newer information from the at least one information source such that the initial information contained in the continuously newer relational database is constantly replaced by the newer information within a predetermined time from when the newer information is obtained from the at least one information source, and comparing the data in the database with the information resident at the information source;

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<u>e)   verifying the updated information by comparing the updated information against other information from another one of the at least one information source;</u>

~~e~~f)   repeating step d as soon as the newer information about the at least one individual is ~~obtained from the at least one information source~~verified;

~~f~~g)   transmitting the newer information to the at least one interested party automatically; and

~~g~~h)   a payment is made by the database owner to the at least one information source for the provision of information about the at least one individual, and wherein a payment is made by the at least one interested entity to the database owner for being provided the information about the at least one individual,

wherein the method results in the creation of an on-line continually updated profile of the at least one individual that can be accessed on an as needed basis by the interested entity to verify the information about the at least one individual.

38.   (cancelled).

39.   (previously presented) The business method as claimed in Claim 37, wherein the at least one interested entity obtains the information about the at least one individual from the database for the purpose of determining whether the at least one interested entity desires to create, maintain or terminate a relationship with the at least one individual.

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40.   (currently amended) A method for providing current updated and verified credential information to an interested entity regarding an individual within a profession regarding the ongoing and continued employment of the at least one individual comprising the steps of:

a)   maintaining a searchable relational database containing credential information on the individual through a combination of:

(i)   initially obtaining the credential information on a predetermined period basis about the individual from the individual and a combination of information sources selected from the group consisting of electronic sources, organizations possessing information about the individual, public records, and commercial databases;

(ii)   continually updating the credential information by automatically obtaining updated credential information from the information sources and replacing predated credential information contained in the database with updated information obtained by step (i);

(iii)   comparing the data in the database with the information resident at the information sources; and

(iv)   sorting the credential information into at least one searchable unit within the database;

b)   allowing the interested entity access to the database through an Internet interface;

c)   verifying the updated information by comparing the updated information against other information from another one of the at least one information source; and

ed)   providing the updated information to the interested entity through the Internet interface such that the interested entity automatically on a periodic basis receives the updated information from the relational database regarding the individual,

wherein the information consists of information selected from the group consisting of personal information, professional information, governmental information, court information, educational information, licensing information, certification information, and legal information; the method results in the creation of an on-line

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continually updated profile of the individual that can be accessed on an as needed basis by the interested entity to verify the information about the individual; and the interested entity does not maintain the database.

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